Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 00:00 on Tuesday 27 Dec 2022 until 23:59 on Wednesday 28 Dec 2022

Forecast Issued on Monday 26 Dec 2022 at 10:34

Confidence: High for unsettled, often wet and windy weather, but low confidence for details, especially timing of worst of conditions.

Headline for Tuesday 27 Dec 2022: A very windy day with snow at height at first but turning to rain at all levels in morning, with heavy rain at times.

Mountain weather hazards on Tuesday 27 Dec 2022

Blizzards
Low Likelihood

Gales
High Likelihood

Thunderstorms
No Likelihood

Heavy persistent snow
Low Likelihood

Severe chill effect
Medium Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain
High Likelihood

Storm force winds
Low Likelihood

Poor visibility
High Likelihood

Strong sunlight
No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Partly cloudy (night)	Light snow	Heavy snow	Sleet	Heavy Rain	Heavy Rain	Cloudy	Partly cloudy (night)
Precipitation probability							
<05%	30%	60%	80%	>95%	80%	20%	20%

Forecast for Tuesday 27 Dec 2022

Weather: Clear periods in early hours then cloud building to bring showery outbreaks of snow, but increasingly turning to rain on lower slopes. Then a cloudy day with snow on the summits turning to rain in the morning, with spells of heavy rain through much of the day. Clearing in the early evening with clear spells developing but a few showers spreading in too, these wintry on the higher summits. Risk of blizzards over the summits, especially in the morning.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: Almost nil by day, but 70% in the early hours and much of the evening.

Low cloud and visibility: Generally moderate or poor visibility through the day and very poor in snow and within cloud with broken cloud base 700m becoming persistent 400-500m in morning, but cloud more broken on early hours and for much of the evening. Almost nil in blizzards and heavy snow on the tops with navigational difficulties and risk of disorientation.

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Met Office Mountain Weather Forecast

Forecast for Tuesday 27 Dec 2022

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	26/31 SW	25/28 SW	27/33 S	42/51 S	52/65 S	43/55 SW	36/45 SW	38/49 W	39/50 SW
600	20/28 W	18/25 SW	21/28 S	33/45 S	39/55 S	34/48 SW	28/40 SW	30/43 W	30/42 SW
300	6/21 W	5/19 SW	6/20 S	11/32 S	14/39 S	14/35 SW	12/30 SW	13/33 W	13/31 SW
Valley	5/19 W	5/18 SW	6/19 S	12/31 S	16/40 S	15/34 SW	11/28 SW	13/31 W	14/31 SW

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	-3/-11	-2/-10	-1/-9	-1/-10	2/-7	4/-4	2/-6	1/-7	0/-8
600	-0/-7	-0/-7	0/-6	1/-7	4/-4	5/-1	4/-2	3/-4	3/-4
300	1/-2	1/-1	2/-0	3/-2	5/1	7/3	6/3	5/2	5/1
Valley	4/2	4/2	5/3	5/2	7/4	9/5	8/5	7/4	7/4
Freezing Level*	400m	500m	700m	1000m	1500m	1500m	1100m	1000m	1000m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

Cold start and increasingly windy at height with a significant chill, even after snow turns to rain. Very windy at height with severe buffeting likely on exposed ridges and peaks. Movement and navigational difficulties even at modest elevations.

Forecast for Wednesday 28 Dec 2022

Weather: Clear periods overnight but high cloud spilling over area later in the night. Cloud soon lowering and thickening in the morning as winds increase, to bring periods of heavy rain, perhaps falling as snow on summits at first. Rain becoming patchy in late afternoon then clearing in evening, but blustery heavy showers developing and merging to a longer spells of heavy rain late evening.

Maximum wind: Southwest 25 at first, increasing 35 gust 45mph in morning, but 45-55 gusts 70mph at higher elevation.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: Little chance through daylight hours, but 80% much of the night and improving chance in evening.

Low cloud and visibility: Mostly good visibility at first and again in evening, but becoming moderate or poor in rain and very poor in any snow and within extensive cloud, above 400 or 500m, though mostly scattered above 600m at first and later in evening.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Falling close to Zero C overnight then rising to plus 9 C
At 800m: Zero C rising to plus 3 C by the morning, then plus 5 C by day
Freezing level: 1000m at first but rising.

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Ground Conditions Supplement
Date: Monday 26 December 2022 Location Blencathra summit at 12:15 Full report: Winter has returned to the Lake District fells with overnight snow settling down to 300m. Conditions underfoot are very variable as a strong SW wind is transporting the snow around the mountains. Windward slopes are generally scoured and icy while N through E aspects are becoming loaded. Significant knee deep drifts and cornices are forming behind features and ridges and there was plenty of evidence of pockets of soft wind slab forming. Throughout the day there were continued snow showers and heavy squalls of graupel. This combined with copious amounts of spindrift meant that goggles were an essential piece of kit for navigation and enjoyment. Winter is forecast to continue to develop on the fells over the next few days so we strongly recommend carrying crampons, microspikes and an ice axe to deal with the wide variety of ground conditions you may encounter. Plenty of warm and waterproof clothing, a reliable and appropriate system of navigation, a head torch and googles should also be tucked away in your rucksack.
Temperature: minus 1.8 C Maximum wind speed 43.7 mph Wind chill: minus 13.2 C Average wind speed: 27.4 mph.

Issued at: 1034 on Mon 26 Dec 2022

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